NIH Library News

Table of Contents in Your Mailbox

NIH staff can have the **table of contents** of journals delivered automatically by e-mail as each issue is entered through a service offered by a company called UnCover. The UnCover Company **does not charge for** the **delivery of tables of contents.** The range of periodicals available for selection is wide, and not limited to biomedicine. Up to 100 periodicals can be selected for the service. Profiles and titles requested can be changed at any time.

UnCover is available on the Internet, and any NIH staff member connected to the network can access this database service. The e-mail table of contents service is called **UnCover Reveal.**

UnCover is a menu-driven database and document delivery service developed by the Colorado Association of Research Libraries (CARL). **There is a charge for articles ordered through UnCover Reveal.** The cost is reasonable relative to some commercial services, and the advertised turnaround time on a copy request is 24 hours. Copy is faxed to the requestor.

NIH Library cardholders, however, who find an article of interest when browsing a table of contents, may submit an NIH-232 request form, or use the Request feature of the Catalog for a photocopy without charge.
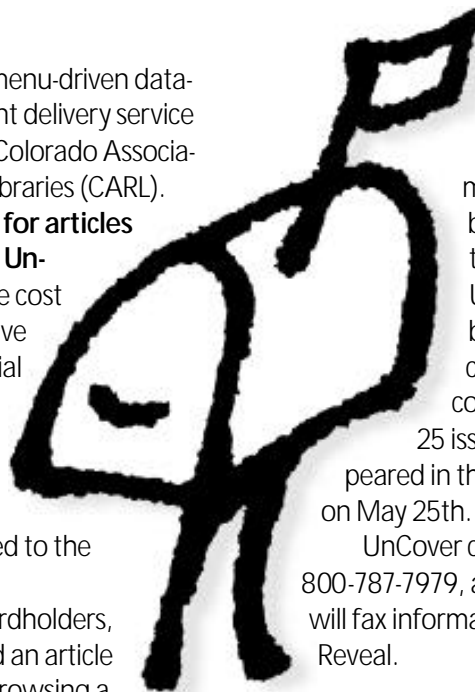
Table of contents for the titles selected will be mailed to your e-mail box automatically as they are entered into UnCover. The database can be quite current; the table of contents for the May 25 issue of JAMA appeared in the editor's mailbox on May 25th.

UnCover can be reached at 800-787-7979, and, upon request, will fax information on UnCover Reveal.

The Word

Selecting **Word** from the main menu of the **Library's on-line Catalog** can be an effective way of searching for a specific book or journal title as well as looking for publications on a topic. (see Search Tip on the back)

The effectiveness of **word** searching is illustrated by some recent statistics. During the period from May 14–23, 1994, for example, while 47.85% of all searches performed in the Catalog used Title, only 57% resulted in retrieval of a publication record or "hit." **Word** searches, on the other hand, used less frequently (10% of all searches), were more productive; **89% of Word searches resulted in "hits."** Try a **Word** search when looking for a specific title or publication in the NIH Library Catalog.

How to Order Tables of Contents

1. Telnet to **database.carl.org**.

2. Select the number for **your terminal type** (for example, the NIH Library's computers are #5: vt100)

3. Select **UnCover** from the menu (#1).

4. Press **Return** when prompted for an access password

5. Press **Return** again to continue as an open access user

6. To set up a profile select **NEW** (setting up a profile is necessary to select titles for table of contents delivery; ignore method of payment information unless you plan to order documents from the service.)

7. Select **B** for browse titles to begin your selection of titles. We entered Journal of the American Medical Association, for example, and did not find it. Then we tried JAMA and found it. New England Journal of Medicine we found by entering it just that way.

8. Select the title from the list provided, and type **reveal**.

Letter to the Editor

✉ I was perusing the February NIH Library News and noticed the information on accessing various databases. Does the library offer a course in using the Internet, something that would cover all the different protocols (TC[P]/IP, Gopher, Telnet, etc.). I haven't the slightest idea how to get "into these loops."

Richard M. Kapit
CBER

The Library plans to provide some instruction on network access this Fall. The format of that instruction is currently under discussion. Access to the Gopher and the network software TCP/IP (used to telnet to resources on the internet) is available to most computers at NIH through a local area network or via a modem to those with accounts on the DCRT Convex computer. Local Area Network (LAN) administrators (the people responsible for setting up and maintaining network connections for individual groups) are the best source of information for your specific computer setup. —Editor

Word Searching in the Library Catalog

Word searching by individual words of a title can give a powerful boost to searching the NIH Library Collection. This is true for both book and journal titles.

You can simply use words that you would expect to be in the title

User enters ➡ Lipid
Catalog replies ➡ You searched for the WORDS: lipid
112 entries were found, entries 1–8 are: [a list of all the titles follows]

In WORD search, truncation, e.g. lipid(s), lipid(emia), is not automatic. Adding * at the end retrieves various endings

User enters ➡ lipid*
Catalog replies ➡ You searched for the WORDS: lipid*
198 entries found, entries 1–8 are: [a list of all titles follows]

You can use the Boolean connector or to broaden a concept

User enters ➡ lipid* or cholesterol*
Catalog replies ➡ 249 entries found, entries 1–8 are: [a complete list follows]

You can combine terms by typing the words adjacent to each other and make the search more specific:

User enters ➡ lipid* plasma
Catalog replies ➡ You searched for the words: lipid* & plasma
2 entries found, entries 1–2 are: [the titles follow]

The full records of the titles retrieved can be displayed by typing the number (for example, 5) of the title. Typing the letter R will return you to the list for further browsing.